

Hawaii MARINE ON POINT

HAWAII MARINE D SECTION

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IT'S NOT the size of the DOG

K-Bay Mascot, Cpl. Shamrock's Full "Danno" O'Blarney, gets promoted

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Press Chief

He very well may be the first seven-year-old sergeant in the Marine Corps, but with a name like Shamrock's Full O'Blarney, perhaps it was pure luck that helped him move up through the ranks so quickly.

Kaneohe Bay's base mascot, an English bulldog, better known as Danno, was promoted to sergeant Friday in a colors ceremony at the flagpole on base.

Danno has been serving with the Marines of the Provost Marshals Office nearly his entire life. He was born on March 17, 1998, and purchased by the base when he was 16 weeks old. He has since then become one of the most well-known Marines on K-Bay, frequenting many ceremonies and functions.

According to Lance Cpl. Kyle E. Long, travel clerk and Danno's base escort, the laid-back bulldog has little other responsibilities, beside making appearances to a majority of the command functions.

"He relaxes a lot," said Long. "He mostly lays around all day with his buddy Molly."

Molly is another English bulldog who entered the K-Bay scene last year and has since then become Danno's partner in lackadaisical activities.

According to Staff Sgt. Jon D. Jerome, watch commander, Provost Marshals Office, Danno received his nickname after Marines participated in a poll to choose the name.

Pvt. Iain A. Schnaible submitted the name Danno, a character from the television show, "Hawaii Five-O," as a recommendation for the bulldog's nickname, according to a 2001 article in the *Hawaii Marine*.

According to Danno's primary caretaker, the mascot came from a long line of champion bulldogs, and paying \$2,449 for the K-Bay mascot was a direct reflection of the cost for purchasing a dog from the breeder's bloodline.

His heritage is something that the K-Bay Marines take pride in — a sense of pride in a Marine icon that dates back to post World War I and a recruiting poster, painted by Charles B. Falls. The painting depicted a



Gunnery Sgt. Claudia LaMantia

Brig. Gen. George J. Trautman III congratulates Base Mascot Shamrock's Full O'Blarney, or better known as Danno, on his promotion to sergeant during Friday's colors ceremony.

dachshund, representing a German soldier, running from an English bulldog, the "Teufel-Huenden," or "Devil Dog," which was the German's nickname for U.S. Marines.

It is no wonder that Marines, throughout the Corps, take such pride in their mascots.

Retired Lt. Col. Stephen J. Cameron, former provost marshal, MCB Hawaii, thought that Danno would make a positive impact on the morale of the military personnel on base, and once the idea was approved, Danno found a home among the Marines at PMO.

Danno has been enjoying his home here at Kaneohe Bay where he lives the good life, together with Molly, where he continues to roam the halls of PMO, sleeping during working hours, and occasionally waddling around base boosting the morale of whomever he happens across.

Cpl. Ryan Martel (left) struggles with K-Bay's mascot, English bulldog Shamrock's Full O'Blarney, better known as Danno, as Sgt. Timothy R. Johnson, military working dog handler, directs him, during a military working dog demonstration at last year's Bishop Museum's annual Family Sunday Military Day.



Danno draws children and adults alike, wherever he goes. In spite of his calm, easy-going demeanor, Danno has been trained as a military working dog, often demonstrating his skills to the public's delight.

